

## Chrysanthemum plant named 'Etna'

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

'Etna' is a product of a breeding-program which had the objective of creating new chrysanthemum cultivars with a anemone type flower, a 7 week response and a medium plant height. The new plant of the present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of Chrysanthemum plant. 'Etna' is a seedling from a cross in a breeding program maintained under the control of inventor. The female parent is -USPP ....., not available to inventor for description. The male parent is unknown, being a mixed pollination of a group of male parents. The new and distinct cultivar was discovered and selected as a flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross by Rob Noodeljik in a controlled environment (greenhouse) in Rijsenhout Holland in August 1998. The first act of asexual reproduction of 'Etna' was accomplished when vegetative cuttings were taken from the initial selection in October 1998 in a controlled environment in Rijsenhout Holland.

### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is a new and distinct variety of chrysanthemum bearing SMALL sized blooms with PINK ray-florets and a darker pink cushion center.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention of a new and distinct variety of chrysanthemum is shown in the accompanying drawings, the color being as nearly true as possible with color photographs of this type.

Fig. 1 shows a plant of the cultivar in full bloom.

Fig. 2 shows the various stages of bloom of the new cultivar.

Fig.3 shows the foliage of the new cultivar

### DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

This new variety of chrysanthemum is of the botanical classification dendranthema grandiflora. The observations and measurements were gathered from plants grown in a greenhouse in Rijsenhout Holland in a photo-periodic controlled crop under conditions generally used in commercial practice. The greenhouse temperatures during this crop were at day-time between 18°C and 25°C and at night 20°C. The photo-periodic response time in this crop was 52 days after an average of eight long days. After this long day period to flowering growth retardants were applied 6 times in an average dose of 1.5 gram/liter water. No tests were done on disease or insect resistance or susceptibility. This new variety produces SMALL sized blooms with PINK ray-florets and SCHIJF disc-florets blooming on the plant for 5 weeks. This new variety of chrysanthemum has been found to retain its distinctive characteristics throughout successive propagations however the phenotype may vary significantly with variations in environment such as light intensity and temperature. To show the phenotype as described 'Etna' can be planted without assimilation lightning (high pressure sodium lamps) between week 50 and week 40 of the next year under greenhouse conditions in Holland. With assimilation lightning (minimum level 2500 lux) it can be planted year round under greenhouse conditions in Holland.

From the cultivars known to inventor the most similar existing cultivar in comparison to 'Etna' is 'Pixie Time' (unpatented). Both 'Etna' and 'Pixie Time' have a bi-color anemone type flower. When 'Pixie Time' and 'Etna' are being compared the following differences are noticed: The differences of 'Pixie Time' and 'Etna' are (1) Flower color. The bi-color effect of 'Etna' is stronger. (2) Vigor. Etna is more vigorous. (3) Plant habit. The width of 'Etna' is larger.

The following is a description of the plant and characteristics that distinguish 'Etna' as a new and distinct variety.

The color designations are taken from the plant itself. Accordingly, any discrepancies between the color designations and the colors depicted in the photographs are due to photographic tolerances. The color chart used in this description is: The Royal Horticultural Society color chart, edition 1995.

Table 1: Botanical Description of

CULTIVAR 'Etna'

Bud

Size	Small; cross-section 0.8 cm, height 1.2 cm
Outside Color	Red-purple 66 D
Involucral bracts	2 rows, length 7 mm, width 3 mm
Involucral bracts among disc-florets	Not present
Involucral bracts color	Green 143 C

Bloom

Type	Anemone
Height	Medium high
Size	SMALL
Fully Expanded	4.2 – 4.7 cm.
Number of blooms per branch	Approx. 3-5 blooms per branch
Performance on the plant	5 weeks
Seeds	Not produced
Fragrance	Typical chrysanthemum

Color

Center of the flower (disc-florets)	Immature a dot of red-purple 59 A, in the center red-purple 60 C, the outer half red-purple 62 C Mature a dot of red-purple 59 A, red-purple 60 C, the outer half red-purple 62 C
Color of upper surface of the majority of the ray-florets	Purple 75 D
Color of the lower surface of the majority of the ray-florets	Purple 75 D with a pattern of purple 75 B

Tonality from Distance	A pot mum with purple and white flowers and a purple center
Discoloration to color	The center partly to red-purple 62 C, the petals do not fade.

#### Ray florets

Texture	Upper and under side smooth
Number	20-22
Cross-section	Concave
Longitudinal axis of majority	Straight
Length of corolla tube	Short
Ray-floret length	1.6 – 1.8 cm.
Ray-floret width	0.8 cm.
Ratio length / width	Very low
Shape of tip	Pointed

#### Disc florets

Disc diameter	Anemone center; 3.0 cm.
Distribution of disc florets	Numerous and clearly visible at all stages of flowering.
Shape	Petaloid
Color	Red-purple 62 C, tipped with red-purple 60C
Receptacle shape	Domed raised

#### Reproductive Organs

Stamen (present in disc florets only)	No stamen
Pollen	No pollen

Styles (present in both ray and disc florets)	Green, very thin
Style Length	3 mm.
Stigmas	Green
Stigma Width	1 mm.
Ovaries	Enclosed in calyx

#### Plant

Form	A pot mum meant for indoor use
Growth habit	Spreading
Growth rate	Rapid
Height	27.0 – 28.0 cm.
Width	27.0 cm.
Stem Color	Green 143 C
Stem Strength	strong
Stem Brittleness	Absent
Stem Anthocyanin Coloration	Absent
Length of lateral branch	From top to bottom 12.0 – 14.0 cm
Lateral branch color	Green 144 A
Lateral branch, attachment	Strong
Branching (average number of lateral branches)	Prolific with 5-6 breaks after pinching
Peduncle length	3.5 – 4.0 cm.
Peduncle color	Green 144 A
Flowering Response(photo-periodic controlled crop, not natural season)	52 Days

## Foliage

Color	Upper side green 137 A Under side green 138 A
Size	small; length 5.5 cm, width 4.5 cm
Quantity (number per lateral branch)	7-8
Shape	Ovulate
Texture upper side	Fleshy
Texture under side	Pubescent
Ribs and veins upper side	Ribs and veins well developed
Ribs and Veins upper side	Ribs and veins well developed
Venation arrangement	Palmate
Shape of the margin	Crenated
Shape of Base of Sinus Between Lateral Lobes	Round
Margin of Sinus Between Lateral Lobes	Parallel
Shape of Base	Acute
Apex	Mucronate

Table 2:Differences with the comparison varietie

	'ETNA'	'PIXIE TIME'
Color of the center of the flower immature	a dot of red-purple 59 A, in the center red-purple 60 C, the outer half red-purple 62 C	A dot of red-purple 61 A, in the center red-purple 61 C, the outer half red-purple 61 D
Growth rate	Moderat	Slow
Width	26.0 cm.	24.0 cm.